



Vehicle and equipment fuels must be stored and handled properly to protect against fires and hazards to human health and the environment. Spilled fuels can contaminate soil, evaporate to become air pollutants or flow into storm water drainage systems to become water pollutants. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Vehicle and Equipment Fueling (T9a) have been developed for your safety and to protect our environment.

BMP Goals

The goals of the vehicle and equipment fueling BMPs are to minimize contact between storm water runoff and spilled fuel, oil, or other leaked vehicle fluids at equipment fueling areas.

General Operational Procedures

The following procedures should be carried out at maintenance facilities where vehicles or equipment are fueled:

- Keep an ample supply of spill clean-up materials and spill control equipment near fueling areas.
- Post proper fueling and clean-up procedures at fueling areas.
- Install automatic shut-off valves at each pump and manual shut-off valves inside shop buildings.
- Keep current permits obtained from appropriate agencies for fuel tanks and dispensers.

Maintenance personnel conducting vehicle or equipment fueling should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use the "dry shop" principle when cleaning up spills. Use a damp cloth on pumps or damp mop on pavement. Use absorbent material to soak up spills. Collect used absorbent into a waste container, handle as hazardous waste and dispose of the contents according to approved disposal procedures.
- Avoid hosing off the fueling area.
- Inspect portable fueling tanks regularly for cracks or leaks and repair as necessary.



Portable fuel tank.



Spill kit near above ground fuel tank.

Recommendations for Off-Site Fueling

When fueling equipment away from the maintenance facility, the following procedures should be implemented:

- Conduct fueling operations over drip pans or other impermeable surface.
- Keep away from storm drain inlets, the storm water drainage system, and watercourses when fueling.
- Do Not "top off" fuel tanks.
- Keep clean absorbent materials on hand for minor spills.
- Make sure portable fuel tanks are leak free and are secured during transit.

Other Recommended Practices

- Be on the alert for possible fire hazards.
- Contact the District Hazardous Materials Manager for large leaks or spills.
- Spills or leaks on earthen surfaces can potentially run off to the storm water drainage system. Affected areas should be removed and disposed of according to approved procedures.



Posted procedures at fueling area.

This bulletin is published monthly by the Storm Water Compliance Review Task Force to support the Caltrans maintenance staff in its efforts to achieve and maintain compliance with storm water pollution prevention regulatory requirements.

Storm Water Management Practices for Vehicle and Equipment Fueling

Additional information is available in the Caltrans Maintenance Manual, Chapter C-6, or from your District Maintenance Storm Water Coordinator. Questions or comments may be directed to Jack Broadbent, Maintenance Storm Water Coordinator, (916) 653-0361